Government of India under Phase VII, PMGSY for Madhya Pradesh *vide* letter dated 06.02.2007.

ill-effect of export of wheat on producers

†*307. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN TIWARI:
SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that due to some of the provisions of WTO, the countries importing foodgrains time and again have to open their markets to MNCs;

(b) if so, whether Government have studied the likely ill-effects on wheat producers as a result of its decision to export wheat for the second consecutive year; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Unemployed persons registered in employment exchanges

*309 SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of unemployed persons registered in the various employment exchanges;

(b) the State-wise break-up; and

(c) the total number of employment opportunities created in the last five years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The total number of job seekers, all of whom may not necessarily be unemployed, registered in the various employment exchanges in the country as on 31st May, 2007 was 413.7 lakh.

(b) The State-wise break-up of job seekers is given in the Statement (*See* below).

(c) Reliable estimates of employment and unemployment are obtained through quinquennial National Sample Surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO). Estimated employment, as per usual status approach has gone up to 459 million in 2004-05 from 397 million in 1999-2000. Employment opportunities for around 12.4 million persons have been created, on an average per year, during the above five years.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Statement

State-wise number of job seekers registered with the employment exchanges as on 31.5.07

(In thousand)

Sl. No.	State/UT	Number of job seekers
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	2301.7
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	31.4
3.	Assam	1879.5
4.	Bihar	1685.1
5.	Chhattisgarh	1057.5
6.	Delhi	478.2
7.	Goa	101.6
8.	Gujarat	780.6
9.	Haryana	1126.1
10.	Himachal Pradesh	759.9
11.	Jammu And Kashmir	106.9
12.	Jharkhand	1169.6
13.	Karnataka	1083.6
14.	Kerala	3968.0
15.	Madhya Pradesh	1905.4
16.	Maharashtra	3690.1
17.	Manipur	585.7
18.	Meghalaya	31.6
19.	Mizoram	45.2
20.	Nagaland	44.5
21.	Orissa	873.6
22.	Punjab	439.8
23.	Rajasthan	784.1
24.	Sikkim *	–
25.	Tamil Nadu	4366.2
26.	Tripura	432.1
27.	Uttarakhand	464.5

1	2	3
28.	Uttar Pradesh	3192.9
29.	West Bengal	7682.0
30.	A and N Islands	39.6
31.	Chandigarh	51.0
32.	D and N Haveli	6.5
33.	Daman and Diu	10.9
34.	Lakshadweep	11.2
35.	Puducherry	183.4
	TOTAL:	41369.9

Note:

*No employment exchange is functioning in the State.

Figures may not tally due to rounding off.

Permissible commodities in retail business

†*310. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the commodities for which domestic and foreign companies are permitted to do retail business in the country;

(b) the contribution in percentage of foreign capital investment and domestic capital investment in the retail business;

(c) whether the problem of unemployment will not increase due to entry of corporate companies in the retail business;

(d) if so, the reasons for granting permission to said companies by Government;

(e) whether Government will consider to put ban on entry of corporate companies in this retail business; and

(f) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI KAMAL NATH): (a) Domestic companies are permitted to do retail business in all commodities and products except, in those commodities and products, where it is prohibited in law. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) is not permitted in retail trading except in retailing of 'Single Brand' products where FDI up to 51% is allowed with prior Government approval.

(b) It is estimated that large domestic and foreign investment in retail business, if permitted by Government, would take place in the next few years.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.